CLAIMS

1. A method of representing content management in an electronic device having a
   context sensor:
5   receiving signals from a context sensor;
     determining a contextual characteristic of the device based on the received context sensor
         signals;
     associating the determined contextual characteristic with a data management function of
         the device; and
10   determining a virtual physical representation to be output in response to the execution of
         the data management function.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of relating the virtual physical
   representation to the sensed contextual characteristic.

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3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of relating the virtual physical
   representation to the data management function.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting the virtual physical
20   representation by a user interface of the device.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of controlling the data
   management function of the device in response to the context sensor signal.

25 6, The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of executing a first data
       management function of the device in response to receiving the context sensor
       signal and the device operating in a first mode, and
   executing a second data management function of the device in response to receiving the
       context sensor signal and the device operating in a second mode.

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7. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of proportionally executing the data management function of the device in response to the context sensor signal, and wherein the virtual physical representation is presented proportionally to the execution of the data management function.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein the context sensor is at least one of a capacitive touch sensor, a motion sensor, a temperature sensor, a light sensor, a proximity sensor, an infrared sensor, a camera, or a microphone.

10   9. The method of claim 8, wherein the touch sensor is a plurality of touch sensors carried on a housing of the device.

10. A method of content management in an electronic device comprising:

selecting data to be transferred, wherein said data is stored in a first device;

15   sensing a contextual characteristic of the first device;

establishing a connection between the first device and a second device;

transferring the selected data to the second device; and

displaying a virtual representation of the sensed contextual characteristic of the device.

20   11. A method of executing a command resulting from a sensed gesture in a handheld communication device comprising:

activating a first operation mode of the handheld device;

receiving input signals from a gesture senor corresponding to a predetermined gesture of the handheld device;

25   executing an algorithm in said portable communication device in response to said command or said sensor measurement meeting a first criteria; and

presenting a virtual representation of a physical principle on a user interface of the device.

30   12. An electronic device comprising:

a housing;

a microprocessor carried in the housing;

a user interface coupled to the microprocessor and carried on the housing;

a context characteristic sensor electrically coupled to the microprocessor; and

a virtual physical representation control module coupled to the microprocessor and

5   presenting a virtual physical representation to the user interface in response to a

signal from the context sensor.

13. The device of claim 12, wherein the device context characteristic sensor selectively

provides an input signal to the microprocessor in response to activation of a

10   predetermined contextual characteristic.

14. The device of claim 13, wherein the context sensor is a capacitive touch sensor, a

motion sensor, a temperature sensor, a light sensor, a proximity sensor, an

infrared sensor, a camera, or a microphone.

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15. The device of claim 13, wherein the virtual physical representation control module

generates a virtual representation of a well known physical phenomenon that is

associated with a context sensed by the context sensor and

wherein the virtual physical representation control module sends the virtual

20   representation to the user interface.

16. The device of claim 15, wherein the user interface is a display.

17. The device of claim 16, wherein the virtual representation of a well known physical

25   phenomenon is a graphical animation presented on the display.

18. The device of claim 17, wherein the graphical animation presented on the display is a

virtual representation of liquid in a container.

19. The device of claim 18, wherein the virtual representation of a liquid in a container is an animation of the liquid emptying from the container in response to the context sensor sensing a pouring gesture made with the device.

5   20. The device of claim 12, the virtual physical representation control module is a gesture translation module coupled to the microprocessor and receiving input from the device context characteristic sensor, the virtual physical representation control module converting motion of the device into control commands to operate the device.

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21. The device of claim 12, wherein the user interface is a display, a speaker, a vibrator, a microphone, a keypad, a joystick, a camera, a scanner or any combination thereof.

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